

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

Claim 1 has been amended so as to specifically set forth that the EBC comprises a bond coat containing silicon and one or more protective layers selected from a group of coatings previously claimed. Support for these amendments can be found for example in paragraphs [0007] and [0002] of the instant application.

The '649 patent teaches a two layer coating. The first layer is a rare earth silicon oxide with no excess silicon oxide. The second layer applied on the first layer is a further silicon oxide layer. The porosity of the first layer is less than 10% while the porosity of the second layer is said to be between 10 and 30%. The second layer is said to prevent cracking. The '649 patent teaches away from any excess silicon oxide as, in accordance with the teachings of the '649 patent, excess silicon oxide would make the coating layer one porous which is undesirable. The '649 patent does not appreciate the problem that the instant invention addresses nor does the '649 patent provide any effect to prevent the problem, that is, water vapor velocity. Contrary to the teachings of the '649 patent the instant amended independent claim 19 uses a porous top layer to reduce the velocity and increase the life of the EBC which comprises at least a two layer construction of a bond coat containing silicon and a further protective layer. The bond coat consists of silicon which is a source of excess silica. This is totally different from the teachings of the '649 patent. The '649 patent does not want any silica in the layer adjacent to the silicon containing substrate while the present invention is drawn specifically to an EBC coating having a silicon bond coat and a further protective layer which is topped with the

velocity barrier layer of the present invention. Accordingly, the '138 patent cannot be said to teach, disclose, suggest or render obvious the structure as now set forth in amended independent claim 19. Accordingly, the early issuance of a Notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

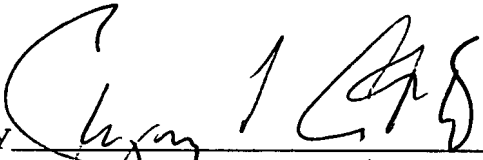
An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

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I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on May 17, 2007.

